

Message Text

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61

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, UR, US (BERGGREN, W.)

SUBJECT:NAS PROGRAM NOMINEE

1. DEPT CONTACTED BY NAS WITH REQUEST THAT EMBASSY SEEK TO ASCERTAIN REASONS FOR SHORTENING AND POSTPONEMENT OF PROPOSED EXCHANGE VISIT BY WILLIAM BERGGREN OF WOODS HOLE INSTITUTE.

2. CURRENT VISIT ORIGINALLY PLANNED IN PROPOSAL FOR FIVE MONTHS BEGINNING LATE JULY. SOV.ACADEMY OF SCIENCES SENT CABLE TO NAS ON MAY 27 ACCEPTING VISIT FOR 2 MONTHS ONLY BEGINNING OCTOBER. NAS CABLE TO SOV SIDE ON MAY 30 POINTED OUT THAT BERGGREN WAS CURRENTLY IN FRANCE WORKING ON A PALEONTOLOGICAL PROJECT WHICH HE HOPED TO FINISH WITH LONG-TERM LABORATORY STAY IN MOSCOW EITHER AT GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE (MENNER AND NIKIFOROVA) OR OCEANOLOGICAL INST. (LISITSIN AND UDINTSEV). SHORT VISIT AT LATER DATE OFFERS NO POSSIBILITY TO ACCOMPLISH NEEDED RESEARCH. KULAKOV CABLE OF JUNE 6 CONFIRMS EARLIER SOVIET MESSAGE BUT OFFERS NO CLARIFICATION OF SOVIET INABILITY TO ARRANGE LONG-TERM

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VISIT.

3. BERGGREN IS PALEONTOLOGIST FROM WOODS HOLE INST. HE

SPENT SIX MONTHS IN USSR IN 1962 ON NAS PROGRAM. HE
KNOWS HIS PROPOSED HOSTS AND SPEAKS GOOD RUSSIAN.

4. BERGGREN, WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY WIFE AND 4
CHILDREN, MUST HAVE FIVE MONTH VISIT OR CANCEL TRIP
ENTIRELY AT GREAT PERSONAL INCONVENIENCE. BERGGREN CAN
BEGIN ANYTIME IN JULY OR AUGUST. KISSINGER

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